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Minnesota is past due in reforming the current teacher pension program for Tier II educators.

It's asinine that a teacher must work 40-45 years in order to collect a non penalized pension. This is a slap in the face compared to teachers in most other states and compared to Minnesota teachers hired before July 1, 1989.

Given the fact that teachers currently pay 8 percent of our salary to this pension, it is unacceptable to wait 40+ years to collect a reduced pension.

Word is now out of how lackluster this pension is; the longer it takes the state to reform pensions to prior standards, the less teachers we will have in the ranks.

Please do the right thing and make teacher pensions a dignified benefit, like we used to do.